

Appl. No. 10/806,288
Amendment dated: July 21, 2005
Reply to OA of: March 21, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please cancel the original title and add the following new title to the application.

--Antibodies to a Fibrinogen Binding Protein of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*--

Please insert the following as the first sentence of the application.

--This application is a divisional application of application number 09/147,405, filed on April 1, 1999 (of which the entire disclosure of the pending, prior application is hereby incorporated by reference) which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,733,758, which is a 371 of PCT/SE97/01091, filed on June 18, 1997.--

On page 10, beginning at line 6, please replace the paragraph with the following amended paragraph.

To obtain the missing 5' and 3' end of the fig gene a Southern blot analysis was performed using chromosomal DNA from strain HB digested with various restriction enzymes. The probe was prepared as follows; two oligonucleotides (5'CAACAACCATCTCACACAAC3' which is SEQ ID NO:1 and 5'CATCAAATTGATATTTCCCATC3' which is SEQ ID NO:2) were used to PCR amplify a ~1.3kb fragment from the insert of pSE100. The PCR generated fragments were 32P-labelled using random priming. After hybridisation using stringent conditions the NC-filter was washed and subjected to autoradiography. The result showed that the XbaI cleavage gave a single band in size of ~6 kb. The corresponding fragment was subsequently ligated into XbaI digested pUC18 vector. After transformation clones harbouring the ~6 kb XbaI-fragment were identified by colony hybridisation using the same probe as in the Southern blot experiment. One such clone, called pSE101 was chosen for further studies. DNA sequence analysis showed that the fig gene consist